1. **Definitions**

A psychotropic drug is any drug that affects brain activities associated with mental processes and behavior. These drugs include, but are not limited to, drugs in the following categories:

* Anti-psychotic;
* Anti-depressant;
* Anti-anxiety
* Hypnotic

1. **Policy**

Psychotropic medications will be administered pursuant to rule §483.45 in the Code of Federal Regulations (CFR).

1. **Procedure**
   1. Residents will only receive psychotropic drugs as a PRN order if that medication is necessary to treat a diagnosed specific condition that is documented in the clinical record.
      1. PRN orders for psychotropic drugs are limited to 14 days except if the attending physician or prescribing practitioner believes that it is appropriate for the PRN order to be extended beyond 14 days then he or she will document their rationale in the resident’s medical record and indicate the duration for the PRN order.
   2. With regard to PRN orders for **anti-psychotic** medications, they are limited to 14 days and **cannot** be renewed unless the attending physician or prescribing practitioner evaluates the resident for the appropriateness of that medication for another 14 days. The order must be rewritten by the practitioner.
   3. No medications are to be used for “off label” purposes. They must be used for their intent and purpose. IE: Benadryl cannot be used for sedation; it must be used as an antihistamine only.